

Message Text

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S E C R E T STATE 071890 TOSEC 030203

NODIS

WH FOR DR. BRZEZINSKI

FOLLOWING REPEAT EC BRUSSELS 3234 ACTION SECSTATE 01 APR 77

QUOTE S E C R E T EC BRUSSELS 03234

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MNUC, PFOR

SUBJECT: PRESIDENTIAL NUCLEAR STATEMENT

REF: STATE 67973 AND EC BRUSSELS 3202

1. EC COMMISSIONER FOR ENERGY BRUNNER CALLED ME IN
APRIL 1 TO PROVIDE INITIAL REACTION TO US VIEWS CONVEYED
MARCH 31 TO PRESIDENT JENKINS. HE SAID REACTION WAS
TENTATIVE BUT BASED ON PREVIOUS COMMISSION DISCUSSIONS
OF ISSUES. IT WAS NOT INTENDED TO TAKE MATTER
TO COMMISSION BEFORE US PUBLIC STATEMENT. HE SPOKE AS FOLLOWS:

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2. EURATOM HAS FOR TWENTY YEARS BEEN TRYING TO PROMOTE
PEACEFUL USES OF NUCLEAR ENERGY IN COMMUNITY. WHILE ONLY
PARTIALLY SUCCESSFUL, ITS TREATY-GIVEN SUPPLY AND R&D
FUNCTIONS ARE IMPORTANT ELEMENTS OF EUROPEAN COMMUNITY
STRUCTURE. EURATOM THINKING IS FULLY COMPATIBLE WITH
US OBJECTIVES AND HE BELIEVES FUTIFUL COOPERATION
IN FUTURE AS IN PAST WILL OBTAIN. IN WAKE OF NPT THE

COMMUNITY NEGOTIATED VERIFICATION ARRANGEMENTS WITH IAEA AND INDEPENDENT INSPECTION AND VERIFICATION BY VIENNA AGENCY ARE UNDERWAY. US-EURATOM CONTRACTURAL SUPPLY ARRANGEMENTS HAVE WORKED SATISFACTORILY AND TO HIS KNOWLEDGE THERE HAS BEEN NO DIVERSION OF MATERIALS.

3. COMMISSION WELCOMES STUDY OF FUEL CYCLE PROBLEMS AND HOPES COMMUNITY CAN PARTICIPATE AS COMMUNITY. IF INVITED, COMMUNITY AND COMMISSION WOULD PARTICIPATE WITH OPEN MIND AND WITH DESIRE TO PROMOTE NON-PROLIFERATION OBJECTIVES US HAS IN MIND. COMMISSION WILL ENDEAVOR REASSESS ITS R&D ACTIVITIES WITH AIM TO CONCENTRATE ON NON-DANGEROUS FUEL CYCLES AND WASTE MATERIAL RESEARCH AND HOPES COOPERATE CLOSELY WITH US EFFORTS.

4. HE TAKES NOTE OF US DOMESTIC DECISIONS BUT POINTS OUT THAT BECAUSE EUROPE IS MORE DEPENDENT THAN US ON NUCLEAR ENERGY, IT WOULD BE "MORE DIFFICULT" FOR EUROPE TO ADOPT SIMILAR DECISIONS. EUROPE DOES NOT HAVE THE SAME POSSIBILITIES AS US TO DEVELOP COAL FOR ECONOMIC AND ENVIRONMENTAL REASONS AND IS ALSO HANDICAPPED IN DEVELOPING INTERMEDIATE WASTE DISPOSAL FACILITIES BY SPACE LIMITATIONS AND PUBLIC OPINION CONSTRAINTS.

5. WHILE EUROPEAN REPROCESSING FACILITIES ARE STILL ON MODEST SCALE, THEY ARE ADVANCED. EUROPEAN INVESTMENT IN BREEDER REACTORS IS LARGE AND EUROPEAN ENERGY PLANS CONTEMPLATE BREEDERS WOULD BE OPERATIVE IN LATE '80'S, AS COMPARED TO PREVIOUS US PLANNING FOR OPERATIONAL
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ELECTRICITY GENERATION IN THE '90'S BY BREEDERS.

6. THEREFORE, "IT WOULD NOT BE EASY FOR EUROPE TO ADOPT PARALLEL POLICY PATTERNS QUICKLY". HE AGREED, HOWEVER, THAT IT WAS HIGHLY IMPORTANT THAT THE US AND THE COMMUNITY AND OTHERS CONCERNED FULLY DISCUSS AND STUDY IN DEPTH THE QUESTIONS TO SEE IF IT MIGHT NOT BE POSSIBLE TO FIND A PARALLEL PATTERN OF POLICY ACTIONS, IF NOT AN IDENTICAL PATTERN.

7. THE COMMISSION WAS OPEN TO PARTICIPATE IN EVALUATION OF ALL POSSIBILITIES WITHOUT PREJUDGING THE RESULTS.

8. HE URGED THAT SUCH STUDIES BE CARRIED FORWARD IN AN ATMOSPHERE OF MUTUAL CONFIDENCE AND TO THIS END HE SAID IT WOULD BE IMPORTANT THAT EXISTING CONTRACTS FOR THE SUPPLY BY THE US OF HIGHLY ENRICHED URANIUM BE FULFILLED.

9. FINALLY, IN DISCUSSIONS WITH THE COMMUNITY AND WITH THE MEMBER STATES WE SHOULD BEAR IN MIND THAT SOME PROPOSALS, FOR EXAMPLE THE PERCY LEGISLATION MAKING A DISTINCTION BETWEEN NUCLEAR WEAPON STATES AND NON-NUCLEAR WEAPONS STATES, POSED THE MOST SERIOUS DANGERS FOR THE UNITY OF THE COMMUNITY. IN SEEKING SOLUTIONS, HE TRUSTED THAT THE US WOULD DO NOTHING TO UNDERMINE EUROPEAN UNITY.HINTON UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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